



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 06530.0276-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Marc O. SCHURR et al.)
Application No.: 09/957,451) Group Art Unit: 3731
Filed: September 21, 2001) Examiner: P. Roberts
For: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR)
FOLDING AND SECURING)
TISSUE)

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

NOV 04 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In an election/restriction requirement dated October 1, 2003, the Examiner required a restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between Group I, directed to claims 1-7, 47-64, 70-85, and 98-101; Group II directed to claims 8-14; Group III directed to claims 15-23; Group IV directed to claims 24-34, and 102-110; Group V directed to claims 35-46, 65-69, 86-97, and 111-119; and Group VI directed to claims 86-97. Applicants elect to prosecute Group I. Accordingly, Applicants request examination of claims 1-7, 47-64, 70-85, and 98-101.

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Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge
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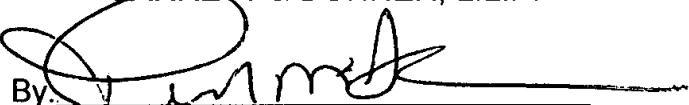
Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 3, 2003

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By:


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